



Warren C. Evans
Sheriff

News Release

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Police agencies team up to track down suspected carjackers who brutalized two elderly women in Grosse Pointe

- *Sheriff's deputies and east side police officers apprehend two juveniles in coordinated response*

Two Detroit juveniles, ages 14 and 16, are expected to be charged as early as today with a brutal carjacking that took place in Grosse Pointe on Monday afternoon and landed two elderly women in the hospital with injuries. The suspects were quickly tracked down by officers from numerous local agencies, including a Wayne County east side auto theft task force, and apprehended within hours of the carjacking, Sheriff Warren Evans said today.

Actively involved in the track down and apprehension were officers from the City of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park, Harper Woods, Detroit Police Department and the Wayne County Sheriff's Office.

"This is a traumatic incident for these two women. An early tip from a neighbor made all the difference. We were able to apprehend the suspects quickly and recover the stolen car before it had been stripped or damaged." Evans said.

The teens are accused of knocking an elderly woman to the ground and stealing her vehicle from the area of Mack Avenue and Fisher. Another elderly female passenger apparently tried to hold onto the fleeing car and was dragged down Mack Avenue before she let go.

The owner of the vehicle sustained injuries to her head and the second woman suffered cuts and abrasions. Both women were taken to an area hospital and treated for their injuries.

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Immediately after the incident, officers from the various departments methodically canvassed area neighborhoods, where the two perpetrators were believed to have fled in the stolen vehicle.

Approximately 90 minutes after the attack, officers received a tip from neighbors that two individuals matching the suspects' description had stashed a car behind a house on Beniteau street on Detroit's east side and entered a nearby home. Responding officers contacted the owners of the home who gave them permission to search it. Inside, officers found both suspects hiding and took them into custody. The car, a 1999 Mustang convertible, suffered no significant damage from the incident and the two victims are expected to recover.

"It's this kind of collaboration and prompt action that has helped our East Side ACTION Team reduce auto theft on the county's east side by more than 30 percent since the first of the year," said Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Department Chief David Hiller.

The ACTION task force (Arresting Car Thieves In Our Neighborhoods) is comprised of deputies from the Wayne County Sheriff's Office along with police officers from the five Grosse Pointe communities and Harper Woods.

The City of Grosse Pointe police are seeking charges against the two juveniles, who may be charged as adults.